

# President's Corner

Apríl/May 2005

Greetings Oak Flower Neighbors,

I am enjoying the blossoming grapefruit tree, the prickly pear developing fruit, and the sage running amok in my garden. As I walked around the neighborhood attempting to collect surveys, I chatted with two of our neighbors and they showed me a delicate cactus blossom that only blooms one day a year. How fortunate I am to have seen it. Thank you, neighbors. What pleasures of our spring gardens are you enjoying? I would really like to know...

A heartfelt Thank You to all the neighbors who volunteered to make phone calls to our neighbors about the Neighborhood Meeting on March 22. We had a fantastic turnout. And Thank You to all the neighbors who turned out for the meeting. Let's do it again and bigger on Tuesday, May 24, at 7pm at the SAAVI Bldg. Your input is crucial to building a neighborhood agenda that reflects our own creative spirit as homeowners and renters in Oak Flower.

Oak Flower will be co-hosting Fiesta de los Barrios 2005, along with our neighbors in Dodge Flower, Palo Verde, and Doolen-Fruitvale Neighborhoods. The best part of all is that our unbelievably gifted and multi-talented Neighborhood Secretary, Blanche White, is going to perform with her band at the Fiesta. Let's turn it out for Blanche!!! Saturday, May 7, 6 to 9 pm at "Catalina Magnet High School, 3645 E. Pima St.

Finally, we will be having a Neighborhood Clean-up Weekend may 13, 14, and 15. There will be three roll-off dumpsters where neighbors can deposit any debris they collect on and around their properties. This is a great opportunity to clip our weeds and get our properties clean. Please remember it is our responsibility by law as homeowners and renters to keep our properties and easements free of weeds and garbage. Fines can run from \$100 to \$2500 per violation. You can find the addresses for where to find dumpsters further in this newsletter. Also, that weekend, the City of Tucson will be providing laborers to clean up our streets and alleys. Please welcome these friends when you see them.

Many thanks again to the active neighbors and volunteers.

Happy Spring! Abby Wine



Neighborhood Clean Up May 13, 14, and 15!

If you have anything lying around that you need to get rid of, now is your chance.
We will have roll offs

out for your convenience. They will be located at: Doris Neilson 4054 E. Flower Jean & Tim Smith Front yard of 2554 N Fair Oaks Bill Bybee 2735 N. Walnut Ave.

#### Meet Your Neighbor

(A neighborhood relations feature)



Blue Barrel Oak Flower resident for 3 years

A sturdy fixture in the Oak Flower neighborhood, Blue Barrel can be seen hanging out by the streets every Monday. Here isan

interview with the popular and welcome addition to our neighborhood.

Oak Flower: How do you like living in the neighbor hood?

Blue Barrel: I really enjoy Oak Flower. It is nice and quiet, but mostly, I appreciate the friendly neighbors. They really welcomed me into the neighborhood when I was new to Tucson.

OF: So you feel welcome?

BB: Definitely! I moved here when my friend, Green Box, retired and everyone has been very supportive of my efforts to help our community and the environment.

OF: How do you help the environment? BB: I carry about 22% of Tucson's waste to recycling facilities. Some day I hope to increase that amount to 50% since over half of what is produced can be recycled.

OF: What suggestions do you have for cutting down on waste

BB: My motto is "Reduce-Reuse-Recycle"-I call it the 3 R's. there are several simple ways to adopt this motto. Buying in bulk, using cloth grocery bags, composting-these are all small things that help big.

OF: How can neighbors reach you if they have any questions about recycling?

BB: I can be reached at 701-5000 and am happy to answer any questions about my program. And I'd like to remind everyone that I enjoy spending Tuesdays through Sundays close to home.

Of: Thanks for talking with me today. One last question-how did you celebrate Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>?

BB: I attended many local activities. One event that I was really excited about was Community Earth Day on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Himmel Park. It involved the whole community and focused on helping the earth at a grassroots level.

Contributed by Marissa Amoni-Jansons

## Thank You!!

We want to thank Kevin Sarullo of Pet Designs for the first donation of a portion of his fee for pet grooming to the neighborhood when anyone mentions Oak Flower. We appreciate the support of our neighborhood businesses as Kevin is continuing to support us. Thanks for being a good neighbor!

We also would like to thank Kevin for the letter of support as a neighborhood business to help our efforts to get another grant to further improve our neighborhood. Another good neighbor whom we would like to thank is Theresa Babich, Victim Advocate Program Coordinator with MADD Pima County. We received a very nice letter of support from her and her organization. We appreciate the support as well as the of the other businesses in the neighborhood who will be providing letters. These letters of support will be included with our grant proposals to show a united front when it comes to neighborhood improvement and crime prevention. Thank you for being good neighbors!



### Make Your plans to join us for a fun evening!

Oak Flower Neighborhood is one of the Host neighborhoods for this year's Fiesta. We would appreciate seeing a large turn out from our neighborhood. We will have a neighborhood welcome table set up. Please come by and say hello.

There will be games, jumping castle, slide, etc. for children, food & soda booths, entertainment and lots of socializing. Among the entertainment groups will be the Catalina High Marching Band, a Western Swing Band, a Mariachi Group, a group of young dancers who will be doing Irish dancing, a group of seniors who call themselves the Prunes will be tap dancing, and a Samba group of dancers. In between some of the entertainment will be presentations of awards for neighborhoods and neighbors for special accomplishments.

I am a member of the western swing band. I play Steel Guitar. I worked with an all-girl band traveling all over the country and world for 26 years. We are looking forward to entertaining everyone on our portion of the show. We will go on at 6:25pm and would like to have a lot of neighborhood support. I hope to see you there!

Blanche White, Secretary and Editor

#### Questions & Comments:

Abby Wine, President 323-0134

Horace Styer, Vice Pres. 325-9724

Blanche White, Sec./Ed. 325-9724

Audrey Peters, Treasurer 323-0859



HAPPY

MOTHER'S

DAY!!

### **NEXT MEETING**

MAY 24, 2005

**Time:** 7:00 pm

Place: SAAVI - Southern Arizona

Association for the Visually

Impaired.

3767 E. Grant Road

There are a lot of things happening right now. Make your plans to join us and stay informed.



Dated Material

Neighborhood Neo

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